

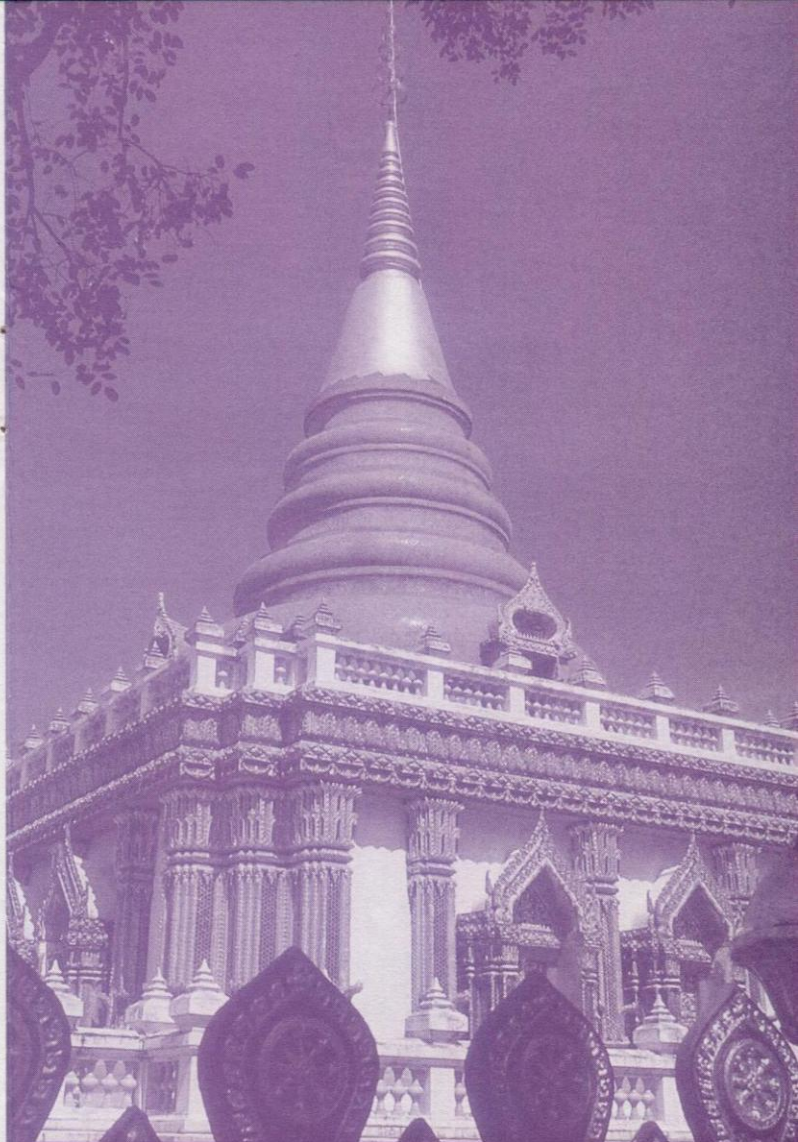
Thailand
HAPPINESS ON EARTH

Khon Kaen



Phrathat Kham Kaen





Wat Udom Khongkha Khiri Khet

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Bueng Kaen Nakhon

Khon Kaen

GLOSSARY OF THAI TERMS

Amphoe	:	District
King Amphoe	:	Minor District
Ao	:	Bay
Ban	:	Village
Hat	:	Beach
Khao	:	Mountain
Ko	:	Island
Laem	:	Cape
Maenam	:	River
Mueang	:	Town or City
Mu Ko	:	Group of Islands (Archipelago)
Namtok	:	Waterfall
Prang	:	Corn-shaped tower or sanctuary
Phu	:	Mountain
Tambon	:	Sub-district
Tham	:	Cave
Ubosot or Bot	:	Ordination hall in a temple
Wihan	:	Image hall in a temple
Wat	:	Temple

Note : English spelling given attempts to approximate Thai pronunciation. Posted signs may be spelled differently. When seeking help from a Thai for directions, point to the Thai spelling given after each place name.

Historically, Khon Kaen is quite a new town established a little over two centuries ago during the reign of King Rama I. But prehistorically, this town on the plateau has involved various natural phenomenon and cultures. Artifacts have proven that millions of year ago the area was ruled by gigantic creature dinosaurs. People in various cultures then occupied the plateau during the pre-historical period until the Ancient Khmer Empire expanded its presence into the area in the 12th century. These cultures, traditions, and historical sites in this area have all contributed in shaping the Thai people and Thailand in this way.

Geographically, Khon Kaen plays an important role as the centre of the Northeast region. Furthermore, the province, by Khon Kaen University, is a major hub of education and technology. A major source of local wisdom in silk production

is in Amphoe Chonnabot where excellent Mudmi Silk is delicately woven by hand using the tie-dye technique. Developments in different areas are facilitating Khon Kaen as a major transportation hub of Indochina.

Khon Kaen province occupies an area of 10,885 square kilometres. The province is divided into 20 Amphoes and 5 King Amphoes.

HOW TO GET THERE

By car : Khon Kaen province is 449 kilometres from Bangkok. Motorists can head north by going through Highway 1 (Phahon Yothin Rd.) and turn right onto Highway 2 (Mittraphap Rd.) at kilometre 107 in Saraburi province. Then go through Nakhon Ratchasima to Khon Kaen.

As Khon Kaen is a transportation hub of the Northeast region, motorists can also travel via the Saraburi-Lam Narai Rd. then turn right through Muang Khom-Dan Khun Thot-Chaiyaphum to Khon Kaen. Or from Saraburi, travel via Lam Narai-Thepsathit-Chaiyaphum-Mancha Khiri-Phra Yuen to Khon Kaen.

By bus : A journey by bus from Bangkok to Khon Kaen takes 7 hours. Several ordinary bus, air-conditioned coaches and 24-seated VIP coaches leave the Northeastern Bus Terminal (Mo Chit 2) daily. For more information, call Tel. 0 2936 2852 to 66. Bus schedules from Khon Kaen can be checked at the Khon Kaen Bus Terminal (Tel. 0 4323 7472, 0 4323 7300) and Air-conditioned Bus Terminal (Tel. 0 4323 9910)

By train : Trains bound for Udon Thani and Nong Khai go via Khon Kaen. Leaving Bangkok Railway Station daily, there are various kinds of trains available such as rapid, express, and air-conditioned diesel trains. For more information, call Tel. 1690, 0 2220-4334, 0 2220 4444. Khon Kaen Railway Station can be contacted at Tel. 0 4322 1112 or www.railway.co.th.

By air : Thai Airways International operates daily flights on the Bangkok-Khon Kaen route. For more information, call Tel. 1566, 0 2280 0060, 0 2628 2000 or Khon Kaen office at Tel. 0 4322 7701 to 5 or visit the website www.thaiairways.com.

Thai Air Asia also operates flights on this route. Call for more information at Tel. 0 2515 9999 or visit the website www.airasia.com.

TRANSPORTATION IN THE PROVINCE

Getting around the province is quite convenient as various kinds of vehicle are available. Tuk Tuk or motorised tricycle's fee starts at 30 baht, while pedal tricycle's fee starts at 20 baht for a service within the municipality. Various regular buses, fanned and air-conditioned, operate in the city. There are also buses leaving for other Amphoes all day long.

Distance from Amphoe Mueang to other Amphoes.

Amphoe Ban Fang	22	kilometres
Amphoe Phra Yuen	30	kilometres
Amphoe Nam Phong	43	kilometres
Amphoe Ban Phai	44	kilometres
Amphoe Nong Ruea	45	kilometres
Amphoe Khao Suan Kwang	49	kilometres
Amphoe Ubolratana	50	kilometres
Amphoe Chonnabot	55	kilometres
Amphoe Mancha Khiri	58	kilometres
Amphoe Kranuan	66	kilometres
Amphoe Phu Wiang	68	kilometres
Amphoe Waeng Yai	72	kilometres
Amphoe Phon	74	kilometres
Amphoe Pueai Noi	80	kilometres
Amphoe Chum Phae	82	kilometres
Amphoe Waeng Noi	96	kilometres
Amphoe Nong Song Hong	96	kilometres
Amphoe Phu Pha Man	109	kilometres
Amphoe Si Chomphu	114	kilometres
King Amphoe Ban Haet	18	kilometres
King Amphoe Sam Sung	39	kilometres
King Amphoe Non Sila	58	kilometres
King Amphoe Khok Pho Chai	75	kilometres
King Amphoe Nong Na Kham	80	kilometres

ATTRACTIONS

Amphoe Mueang

City Pillar Shrine (ศาลเจ้าพ่อเทพารักษ์หลักเมือง) The sacred shrine is located in front of Sala Suk Chai, on Thepharak Road in the compound of the Khon Kaen Municipality Office. A famous monk and former governor of Khon Kaen placed a stone inscription from an ancient site in Amphoe Chum Phae here for a Buddhism rite and set up the city pillar shrine.

Khon Kaen National Museum (พิพิธภัณฑสถานแห่งชาติขอนแก่น) Located on Lang Sun Ratchakan Road, the museum exhibits antiques and precious art pieces from pre-historical to historical periods as well as a skeleton of the New Stone Age man and tools found at Ban Chiang.

Visitors should not miss to see sandstone Sema boundary markers from the Semas Dvaravati period. The boundary markers were carved delicately featuring the life of the Lord Buddha. These were discovered at Fa Daet Song Yang ancient city in Kalasin province.

Other interesting exhibits include stone lintels from Khmer ruins in the region as well as art pieces from other periods namely, Sukhothai and Ayutthaya, and native tools. These exhibits well facilitate study in history, archaeology and the lifestyle of Isan. The museum is open daily from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Admission fee is 30 baht. For more information, call Tel. 0 4324 6170.

Bueng Kaen Nakhon (บึงแก่นนคร) Acquiring an area of 603 rai, the lake is in the municipality of Amphoe Mueang. By the lake is a monument of Chao Phia Mueang Phaen, founder of Khon Kaen. The shady park around the lake decorated with sculptures always attracts people to relax and enjoy recreation.

Treasure Hall (โสมมณมังเมืองขอนแก่น) Established to strengthen the local identity and serve as a study centre, the local museum exhibits the history of the city as well as the people's lifestyle from the yesteryears through the contribution of senior citizens. The exhibitions include Khon Kaen town, history of Khon Kaen and ancient culture dating back to over 5,000 years ago, city establishment, city outlook and Khon Kaen lifestyle, and culture and tradition of Khon Kaen at present.

Phra Mahathat Kaen Nakhon or The 9-storey stupa (พระมหาแก่นนคร หรือพระธาตุ ๙ ชั้น) Located in Wat Nong Waeng,

a royal temple on Klang Mueang Road, the Phra Mahathat houses relics of the Lord Buddha and important Buddhist scriptures. Doors and windows of the 9 storeys of the stupa are beautifully carved, featuring the life and former reincarnations of the Lord Buddha, 16 classes of visible deities in the Brahma's world, and Buddhist rites. Murals within the stupa feature history of the town. The top floor, on the 9th storey, houses relics of the Lord Buddha. Visitors can enjoy a panoramic view of the town from there.

Khon Kaen University (มหาวิทยาลัยขอนแก่น) Located on the hill called "Mo Din Daeng" over 5,000 rai plot of land, the university is the largest education centre in Isan, particularly on the areas that directly involve and benefit Isan people.

How to get there: the university is located 4 kilometres from downtown Khon Kaen. Visitor can access from Mitraphap Road (Khon Kaen-Udon Thani route) or Pracha Samosorn Road (Khon Kaen-Loei route).

Art and Cultural Centre (หอศิลปวัฒนธรรม) Located in the compound of Khon Kaen University, the Isan barn-style building features local knowledge in different areas; namely, arts, geography and history through a modern display. The centre can be accessed through the Si Than Gate.

Khon Kaen OTOP Centre (ศูนย์รวมสินค้า OTOP จังหวัดขอนแก่น) Located in front of the Kosa Hotel, the centre was officially opened on 5 March, 2004, and has served as a hub of Thailand's and especially Khon Kaen's ONE TAMBON, ONE PRODUCT (OTOP) items. A space of approximately 600 square metres of a Thai silk shop was allocated for the OTOP products to be put on sale known as the "*Northeastern OTOP Product Centre*". Among the selling items are garments and cloth, jewellery, useful and decorative items, handicrafts and souvenirs, as well as food and beverage. The centre is open daily during 10.30 a.m. - 9.00 p.m. For more details, please call Tel. 0 4332 0320 ext. 8302, 2019.

Queen Sirikit's 72nd Birthday Anniversary Public Park (สวนสาธารณะเฉลิมพระเกียรติ ๗๒ พรรษา มหาราชินี) The park covers an area of more than 65 rai, with approximately 10 rai having been allocated for public use. It is located at Mu 7, Ban Nong Bua Di Mi, Tambon Tha Phra, Amphoe Mueang. The park's outstanding landmark is "*Thailand's largest Asian black bear statue*", which is also a legendary symbol of Tambon Tha Phra.

From Khon Kaen, travel along Mittraphap Road for 15 kilometres, then turn onto Ban Nong Bua Di Mi - Nong Pho Road for approximately 300 metres. The park is on the right with the smiling “*big bear*” standing in front to welcome visitors.

Sim Isan (Wat Pa Saeng Arun) สิมอีสาน Sim Isan - a term for northeastern ordination hall or Ubosot - is situated within Wat Pa Saeng Arun, Tambon Phra Lap, Amphoe Mueang, approximately 3 kilometres from Khon Kaen City Hall on the Khon Kaen - Kalasin route. The Sim Isan's outstanding features lie in its typical shape and style, solidity, shelter as well as beauty of the murals of Mudmi patterns of the province's famous tie-dyed silk. This has been intended for later generations to learn, treasure as well as conserve local architecture, in addition, to being a significant touristic site of the province.

Wat Chai Si and Its Murals (วัดไชยศรีและภาพจิตรกรรมฝาผนังอุโบสถ) The temple is located at Ban Sawathi, Tambon Sawathi, and being of archaeological, historical as well as social environmental importance, was declared a national ancient monument on 20 August, 2001. The ordination hall-Sim or Ubosot - of this temple houses magnificent mural paintings, both inside and outside, by a folk artisan from Maha Sarakham known as Thong Thipcha. The building originally had a northeastern roof style with an extended roof on each side. Later, a new roof of the Rattanakosin style replaced the old dilapidated one. In 1993, the Fine Arts Department had the roof extended to provide the murals shelter from sunlight and rain, as well as the surrounding landscape improved. There is also a folk museum nearby where rare folk equipment and utensils of the Northeast are collected. The museum is open daily during 8.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m.

Golden Jubilee Convention Centre Khon Kaen (ศูนย์ประชุมอเนกประสงค์กาญจนาภิเษก ขอนแก่น) The Golden Jubilee Convention Centre was constructed by Khon Kaen University to commemorate the auspicious occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary (Golden Jubilee) of His Majesty the King's Accession to the Throne. The foundation stone of the building was laid by His Majesty himself on Thursday, 15 December, 1994. With majestic architecture in the applied shape of a folk covered cart, it was intended to become another national convention centre. Its location among nature near the Si Than

Lake and Pa Phayom or Shorea Forest was well-landscaped and is easily accessible on Maliwan Road at the entrance to Khon Kaen University, only 1.5 kilometres from the heart of Khon Kaen and 4 kilometres from Khon Kaen Airport. The Convention Centre is also surrounded by many important places, modern hotels and department stores, equipped with modern meeting facilities and audio-visual systems and can accommodate up to 3,000 seats. An amphitheatre with a carrying capacity of another 1,000 seats is also available on the mezzanine floor. Besides, its vast area of 3,000 square metres can be adjusted into a concert ground to accommodate a large audience of more than 5,000. Its spacious parking area has a carrying capacity of over 1,000 cars and 20 - 25 buses.

Amphoe Nam Phong (Highway 209 and 2183)

Huean Lao (เขื่อนลาว) The private museum is located at 188 Mu 5, Tambon Khok Tha, Amphoe Nam Phong, featuring Isan lifestyle, typical house, local wisdom, native arts and culture in the past. It is open on weekends and public holidays from 8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. For more information, call Tel. 0 4324 7202 and 0 7221 4765.

Phrathat Kham Kaen (พระธาตุขามแก่น) Located in Wat Chetiyaphum, the Phrathat is believed to be the origin of Khon Kaen city since ancient times. Phrathat Kham Kaen can be date the 20th century A.D. According to legend, a back to king who ruled Mori town in the Khmer Kingdom assigned 9 senior monks to bring relics of the Lord Buddha to be placed in Phrathat Phanom. On the way, the caravan spent a night here, setting a camp by the heartwood of a dead tamarind tree. The caravan reached Nakhon Phanom on the next day just to learn that Phrathat Phanom had already been completed, so they returned on the same route with a wish to place the relics at their hometown instead. On the way back, they were surprised to find the dead tamarind tree buddingly lush. Therefore, they decided to build a Phrathat here and placed the relics and Buddha images inside, naming Phrathat Kham Kaen which means the stupa of tamarind heartwood.

The Phrathat is now well renovated and landscaped. A celebration is held annually on the full moon day of the 6th lunar month. Phrathat Kham Kaen is 12 kilometres from downtown Khon Kaen. Visitors can get there via Highway 209 (Khon Kaen-Kalasin route). After crossing the Nam Phong

River, turn left and keep going for another 14 kilometres.

Ku Prapha Chai or Ku Ban Na Kham Noi (คูประภาชัย หรือคูบ้านนาคำน้อย) According to archaeological finds, the Khmer ruins were hospital built during the reign of Jayavarman VII in the 13th century. The principal tower has a square plan with a front porch, with a rectangular building known as 'Bannalai' - a library - in the southeast. These two laterite buildings were surrounded in by a stone wall with a single front entrance on the east. To the northeast outside the wall, there is a pond lined with laterite. The ruins are now well conserved by the temple nearby.

How to get there: visitors can go via Highway 209 and then turn left on the road parallel to the irrigation canal, and turn right across the bridge into Ban Na Kham Noi. The Khmer ruins are located in the temple, Wat Ku Ban Na Kham Noi. Motorists can also cross the irrigation canal first and go on for 6 kilometres, then turn left and keep going for one kilometre.

King Cobra Village (หมู่บ้านงูจงอาง) Ban Khok Sa-nga in Tambon Sai Mun is famous for its strange pets, king cobra, kept at every house. The villagers formally earned extra income by selling herbal medicines by travelling around through viillages. By 1951, a local doctor, Ken Yongla initiated a cobra show, which was successful to attract clients to the village. Anyway, a cobra show was too dangerous as the snake can spit its poison for two metres making a man blind. So he changed to conduct the show with a king cobra and inherited such skill to the villagers.

Today, after the harvest season, with better transportation, villagers of Khok Sa-nga always travel around to organise a snake show and offer their herbal medicine. In the village, a snake show is held at Wat Si Thamma, performing different series of show such as snake dancing and boxing between king cobra and man. Exhibitions regarding the king cobra as well as nursery are located nearby.

How to get there: Ban Khok Sa-nga is 49 kilometres from downtown Khon Kaen. Visitors can go via Highway 2 and make a right turn at kilometre 33 to Highway 2039. At kilometre 14, opposite Phang Thui police box, turn right onto a soil road. Then keep going through Ban Na Ngam and make a left turn at the intersection, continue for another 600 metres.

Prem Tinsulanonda Military Fort and Hall of Honour (ค่ายเปรมติณสูลานนท์ และหอเกียรติยศ) The hall of honour features

the biography and achievement of statesman Gen. Prem Tinsulanonda who devoted himself for developing Thailand in different areas. Group visitors can contact in prior at the Prem Tinsulanonda Fort, Tel. 0 4324 9490.

Amphoe Ubolratana (Highway 2 and 2109)

Ubolratana Dam or Phong Nip Dam (เขื่อนอุบลรัตน์ หรือ เขื่อนพองหนีบ) Built across the Nam Phong River, the dam was completed in 1964. Ubolratana dam plays significant roles in generating electricity, fishery, irrigation, flood prevention, transportation, and recreation for the people of Khon Kaen. The beautiful lake over the dam is a nice area for relaxing as restaurants, accommodation, park, and boat rental service and golf course are available. For more information, call the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand, Ubolratana Dam office at Tel. 0 4344 6231 or Bangkok office at 0 2436 6046 to 8.

How to get there: the dam is 40 kilometres from downtown Khon Kaen. Visitors can go via Highway 2 and turn left between kilometres 470-471. The dam is 24 kilometres away.

Bang Saen II and Hat Chom Thong (บางแสน 2 และหาดจอมทอง) the beaches are in Ban Hin Phoeng, Tambon Tha Ruea, 53 kilometres from downtown Khon Kaen. As part of the lake over Ubolratana Dam, the beaches are quite picturesque particularly when the sun sets behind the mountain ranges. There are various water sports available such as water bicycle, banana boat, and scooter. Visitors can enjoy fish a menu of freshly caught from the lake. During the holidays, the beaches are always quite lively.

Phu Kao-Phu Phan Kham National Park (อุทยานแห่งชาติภูเก้า-ภูพานคำ) The park acquires a total area of 320 square kilometres or 201,250 rai, in Amphoe Ubolratana and Amphoe Non Sang of Nong Bua Lam Phu province. Most area is deciduous dipterocarp forest, which always changes its hue by early November. The national park headquarters at Phu Phan Kham by the lake has a picturesque sunset view. Camping ground is available. The attractions in the park include traces of a pre-historical community of the same period as Ban Chiang such as cave paintings and carvings footprints of dinosaurs that are presumed to be the same species as those found in Phu Wiang.

How to get there: from Khon Kaen, head for Ubolratana Dam until reaching Ubolratana Market 50 kilometres away. Then go via the Ubolratana-Non Sang Road, the park headquarters is 6 kilometres away. Motorists can also reach the park through the Udon Thani-Loei Road, then go through Amphoe Non Sang and get onto the Sok Chan-Ubolratana Dam Road. Bus on the route Ubolratana Dam-Non Sang also reach the park. The buses leave from Ubolratana Market.

Amphoe Nong Ruea

Nam Phong National Park (อุทยานแห่งชาติน้ำพอง) acquiring a total area of 197 square kilometres, the park covers a large area in Khon Kaen namely; Nong Ruea, Ubolratana, Phu Wiang, Ban Fang, Mancha Khiri, and Khok Pho Chai as well as two Amphoes in Chaiyaphum province, Ban Thaen and Kaeng Khro. The park headquarters is located by the lake over Ubolratana Dam. Forest in this national park is watershed of the Chi and Phong Rivers. The deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forests in this mountain range are a major source of herbs. There are viewpoints in the park. 'Hin Chang Si' is a group of rocks, where wild elephants use for scratching their flanks. This point has a scenic view of the Ubolratana lake and Khon Kaen city. Hin Chang Si viewpoint can be accessed by car, eight kilometres from Sok Tae Reforestation Park. From the head quarters, walking to Hin Chang Si takes around two hours. Some 30 minutes on foot from Hin Chang Si is Plan Chat viewpoint. Pha Sawan is another viewpoint from where visitors can witness beautiful scenery of the lake. The cliff is a two-hour walk from the headquarters. Another interesting attraction in the park is Phon Kham, crater-like rock well. For more information, call Nam Phong National Park at Tel. 0 4324 8006 or of National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department in Bangkok at Tel. 0 2562 0760.

How to get there: Nam Phong National Park can be reached from two routes.

1. From Khon Kaen, go via Highway 12 to Chum Phae District, then turn right at kilometre 30 to Ban Phue for a nother 19 kilometres via Highway 3034 (Nong Saeng-Tha Ruea). This route is 49 kilometres.

2. From Khon Kaen, bound for Amphoe Ubolratana via Highway 2, heading for Udon Thani, then turn left to Amphoe Ubolratana. In the Amphoe, use Highway 3034, which lies

along the lake over Ubolratana Dam. This route is 65 kilometres long.

Amphoe Phu Wiang (Highway 12 and 2033)

Phu Wiang National Park (อุทยานแห่งชาติภูเวียง) This national park always reminds tourists about dinosaurs. Indeed, nobody had formerly ever though the Isan plateau was once home of dinosaurs. Until 1976 when a uranium survey team discovered a piece of fossil, which was examined by French specialists and declared that it was a left knee bone of a dinosaur. After that, serious execration has never ended until now.

On the hill Pratu Ti Ma, which was the first site, geologists have found fossils of a dinosaur, 15 metres high with a long neck and tail. This is a kind of plant-eating dinosaur never found else where before, so it was named *Phuwiangosaurus Sirindhornae* to honour H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. In this site, over ten teeth of a meat-eating dinosaur have also been found. So geologists' scientists presumed that the long-necked dinosaur was prey for these teeth's owner. Among these teeth, one is different. After a study, scientist found that it belonged to a new species of dinosaur never found before. So it was named '*Siamosaurus Suteethorni*' after the discoverer, Mr. Warawuth Suteethorn.

All the three sites are not far from the headquarters, and tourists can also visit the second and third sites nearby.

Fossils of *Siamotyrannus Isanensis* found here are the oldest one, dating back 120-130 million years. This indicates that tyrannosaurus originated in Asia. These fossils are now displayed in the museum of the Department of Mineral Resources.

At the 8th site, there are 68 footprints of dinosaurs, dating back 140 million years ago. Most of them belong to the world's smallest species of meat-eating dinosaur, which walked on two legs. Among such footprints, there is one bigger footprint, assumed to belong to *Carnosaurus*.

These sites are 19 kilometres from the headquarters. It takes an hour to get there by car and four-wheel drive vehicle is recommended. In many sites, geologists found fossils of dinosaur babies, small crocodiles and mussels dating back to 150 million years ago.

Besides fossils of dinosaurs, there are also traces of

ancient civilizations in this area including a high relief of the reclining Buddha on the cliff, at the crest of Phu Wiang Mountain. The Buddha image was carved in the 9th century, mirroring an influence from Indian art. Nearby is Tham Famue Daeng, or Red Palm Cave, at Ban Hin Rong. The cave wall houses prehistoric paintings of cave men's hands from sprays of red ochre.

Natural attractions in the park include waterfalls and field of wild flowers. Namtok Thap Phaya Suea is a small waterfall near to Tham Famue Daeng. Namtok Tat Fa is a 15-metre high waterfall that can be accessed by car. The waterfall is 18 kilometres from Amphoe Phu Wiang. Some 5 kilometres from Namtok Tat Fa is Namtok Tat Klang which is a 8-metre high waterfall. Savanna and rock plateaus are always blanketed with wild flowers in full bloom by the end of the rainy season.

Phu Wiang National Park acquires a total area of 380 square kilometres in Amphoe Si Chomphu and Amphoe Chum Phae.

How to get there: from downtown Khon Kaen, visitors can get there via Highway 12 and connect to Highway 2038, bound for Amphoe Phu Wiang. From Amphoe Phu Wiang, talk the Phu Wiang-Ban Muaeng Mai Road, passing the national park unit, Pak Chong Phu Wiang' at kilometre 23. Turn left at kilometre 30 at Ban Pho Reservoir and the national park's headquarters is 8 kilometres away. The headquarters features an exhibition about the dinosaurs and fossils found in the area. For group tourists requiring a guide, contact the headquarters in advance at Tel. 0 4324 9052.

Hat Sawan (หาดสวรรค์) Acquiring a 62 rai area, the scenic beach by the lake over Ubolratana Dam is an ideal place for recreation among the locals and tourists.

Pattaya II (พัทยา 2) The pond acquiring an area of 20 rai is at Ban Nong Kung Soen, 78 kilometres from Amphoe Mueang. The scenic pond with the backdrop of Phu Phan Mountain is a nice place where the locals love to relax. Besides delicious freshwater fish cuisine available around the pond, there are various water sports tourists can enjoy.

How to get there: from Amphoe Mueang, tourists can get there via Highway 12 and turn right on Highway 2038, continue for another 12 kilometres then turn right onto Kiatsuranond Road. Go for another 22 kilometres, then turn left to Ban Kho. Turn another left at Wat Sopha Rattana

Phatthanaram, go ahead and make a right turn.

Buffalo Conservation Village (หมู่บ้านอนุรักษ์ควายไทย) Supported by the provincial livestock offices, villagers have kept lots of water buffaloes until the village was honoured as the centre to conserve and develop Thai water buffalo. For more information, call Nawa Subdistrict Administration Organisation at Tel. 0 4321 1466.

Reclining Buddha (พระพุทธไสยาสน์) On top of Phu Wiang or Wiang Mountain, there is a beautiful relief on a natural rock of the Reclining Buddha dating back to the Dvaravati period. The relief measures approximately 3 metres from head to toe. The Buddha is lying on his side, his head on his right arm heading westward, the left arm lies parallel to his body. Such a sleeping posture reflects the Indian influence and the relief's antiquity. Regarded as one of the most important Buddha images of the province, a homage - paying fair has been held here annually during the Songkran Festival. To get there from Khon Kaen, take Highway No. 12 (Khon Kaen - Chum Phae) to Ban Chai So, turn right at Kilometre 75 onto a cart trail for about 2.5 kilometres to the foot of the mountain. A walk up the mountain for another 2.5 kilometres which takes approximately 2 hours will lead you to the Reclining Buddha.

Amphoe Chum Phae (Highway 12)

Non Mueang Ancient Town (เมืองโบราณโนนเมือง) The ancient town is located at Ban Na Pho, 80 kilometres from downtown Khon Kaen. Legends say the hill known as Non Mueang was the location of an ancient town. Acquiring a 216 rai area, the oval hill has double moats. Archaeologists have found sandstone Sema boundary markers in Dvaravati style in the town and nearby. Potsherds were scattered around. Some were painted in red, and some decorated with incising and cord-marked patterns.

In the soil layer of the Dvaravati period (7-11th century), none of the funeral-related artifacts was found. So, archaeologists presumed that the funeral of this town changed after the arrival of Buddhism. In deeper soil, more interesting historical evidence was found. Archaeologists found that there used to be a human settlement here since the late pre-historic period. They discovered human skeletons dating back 2,500 years ago. Funeral tools and utensils were buried together with the bodies. The utensils found included pottery decorated

with painted, incising and cord-marked pattern, bronze and animal-bone bangles, shells, colorful beads, as well as iron tools such as hoe, sickle, and animals' bones; namely deer, barking deer, and different fishes. These artifacts prove that people in this community lived on agriculture until the Lop Buri period (11-12th century).

How to get there: Motorists can get there via Highway 12, Khon Kaen-Chum Phae Road, then make a left turn at Chum Phae Post Office, continuing for another 5 kilometres.

Amphoe Phu Pha Man (highway 12 and 201)

Phu Pha Man National Park (อุทยานแห่งชาติภูผาม่าน)

The obvious natural landmark of this park is the towering limestone cliff that looks like a huge curtain. Lush jungle and mixed forest keep this place cool almost all the year round. Acquiring a total area of 218,750 rai, the park covers areas in Amphoe Phu Pha Man and Amphoe Chum Phae of Khon Kaen as well as Amphoe Phu Kradueng of Loei.

Attractions in this national park are rather scattered; therefore, travel routes can be divided into two routes.

1. Amphoe Phu Pha Man route-From Highway 12 (Chum Phae-Phetchabun) travel along Highway 201 and continue for another 10 kilometres before turning left to Amphoe Phu Pha Man.

Tham Klang Khao The cave is in Phu Pha Man Mountain, 2.5 kilometres from Amphoe Phu Pha Man. The cave's entrance is some 100 metres above ground level. Inside is the habitat of millions of bats, whose accumulated droppings cause a strong smell.

Every evening, around 6.00 p.m., these bats always leave the cave in line, over ten kilometres long. It takes some 30-45 minutes until the last bat leaves the cave.

Tham Phra (ถ้ำพระ) Near to Tham Klangkhao, this cave has a natural tunnel sloping up to the crest of Phu Pha Man, but it is quite difficult to get through. The cave houses beautiful stalagmites, stalactites, and big stone pillars. The cave entrance can be accessed by car in any season. Winter, from November to February, is the best period to visit the cave.

Tham Pu Ta Lo (ถ้ำภูตหลอ) The cave is in Ban Wang Sawap, 17 kilometres from downtown Amphoe Phu Pha Man. Cars can access to the cave entrance only in the dry season, from November to April. The cave has a spacious chamber,

covering over a one rai area. With flat soil ground and 5-7 metre high ceiling, good ventilation allows visitors to enjoy admiring the cave comfortably. Stalagmites and stalactites remain untouched. Some glittering stones look like rock crystals.

Namtok Tat Fa (น้ำตกตาดฟ้า) Tat Fa creek, natural borderline between Amphoe Phu Pha Man of Khon Kaen and Amphoe Nam Nao of Phetchabun, cascades through five steps to form this waterfall. The last step is the most impressive one with a height of 80 metres. The rainy season, from late May to early October is the best period to visit the waterfall. Namtok Tat Fa is in Ban Dong Sakhran, Mu 7 Tambon Wang Sawap, some 40 kilometres from downtown Amphoe Phu Pha Man. Cars can reach Ban Tat Fa, then visitors have to trek to the waterfall.

2. The headquarters route-From the former route, going through Highway 201.

Namtok Tat Yai (น้ำตกตาดใหญ่) The big waterfall originate from Tat Fa Creek. The creek cascades through small waterfalls before going through a big cliff at 80 metres high. Namtok Tat Yai is the highest waterfall in the park.

Namtok Tat Rong (น้ำตกตาดร้อง) With a height of 60-70 metres, the waterfall originates from Phong River that runs from Phu Kradueng. The waterfall borders Phu Kradueng National Park and Phu Pha Man National Park. A folk tale says the waterfall can sing as water runs upon a piece of thin stone, the falling water veers off into different rock holes nearby and fills the forest with strange sounds.

Tham Phaya Nakharat (ถ้ำผานาคราช) As winding as a giant naga, the one-kilometre long cave is naturally decorated with glittering curtain-like stalagmites and stalactites. Cars can access to the cave entrance.

Tham Lai Thaeng (ถ้ำลายแทง) Some 800 metres from Tham Phaya Nakharat is tham Lai Thaeng whose wall has ancient paintings on some two-square metre area. The paintings contain some 70 pictures of humans, animals, and others, mirroring culture and life in the pre-historical period dating back to over 2,000 years ago.

There is another nearby place of interest known as Namtok Tat Rong or Namtok Tat Hong as it is called by local dialect name. The 70-metre high waterfall is located in neighboring Loei province on the boundary of Phu Kradueng

National Park, Phu Pha Man National Park and the Phong River. The sound made by the waterfall when cascading onto a huge a large stone slab beneath is how the waterfall derived its name.

The national park has not any accommodation and facility for tourists. Visitors should prepare everything by themselves. For more information, please contact National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department at Tel. 0 2562 0760.

Tham Pu Lup (ถ้ำปูหลุบ) The cave is on Highway 201. Its five chambers are all decorated with glittering stalagmites and stalactites. The cave contains water the year round.

Pha Nok Khao (ผานกเค้า) The towering cliff of black rock by the Phong River looks like an owl or Nok Khao in Thai. It is 125 kilometres from downtown Khon Kaen. Tourists can get there via Highway 2 and 201 (Khon Kaen-Wang Saphung). Pha Nok Khao is on the left of Ban Dong Lan. The best location to see the owl-shape cliff is at the orchid nursery of the Forestry Department on the other side of the road.

Amphoe Mancha Khiri (Highway 12 and 2062)

Chang Kra (ช้างกระ) Having grown wild over a century ago in Wat Pa Mancha Khiri over 4,000 Chang Kra orchid-Rhyncostylis gigantea (Lindl.) Ridl.-are in full bloom on the branches of some 280 trees every year during January and February. These wild orchids always fill the whole area with their mild fragrance.

How to get there: the temple is only a kilometre from downtown Amphoe Mancha Khiri, 57 kilometres from downtown Khon Kaen. From Bangkok, motorists can drive via Highway 2 (Mitraphap Road) then turn left to Amphoe Chonnabot, via Highway 229 (Chonnabot-Mancha Khiri). The entrance to the temple is on the left before reaching Amphoe Mancha Khiri or some 35 kilometres from Mitraphap Road. From Khon Kaen, motorists can go via Highway 2731 and 2062 through Amphoe Phra Yuen.

Tortoise Village (หมู่บ้านเต่า) The villagers keep a large amount of tortoises as their mutual pets. The brownish yellow shelled tortoises, called Tao Phek in local dialect, always travel around in the village to be fed.

How to get there: from downtown Khon Kaen, motorists can drive via Highway 12 (Khon Kaen -Chum Phae) for ten

kilometres then turn left to Highway 2062 (Khon Kaen-Mancha Khiri) for another 54 kilometres. The entrance to the tortoise village is on the left at Ban Kok, two kilometres prior to Amphoe Mancha Khiri. It is easy to notice with two tortoise replicas on the roadside opposite to Wat Si Sumang. Turn left through Ban Kok, the tortoise village is 50 metres away.

Sim (Ubosot of Wat Sa Thong Ban Bua (ลิม (โบสถ์) วัดสระทองบ้านบัว) This Sim, ordination hall, is architectural heritage of Isan with outstanding local characters. The exterior is decorated with colourful mural and glass. The Sim houses a rare Isan-style sandstone Buddha image. In 2002, the Sim was awarded a precious architecture, heritage and cultural conservation of the Asia Pacific by UNESCO.

King Amphoe Khok Pho Chai (Highway 12, 2062, and 229)

Wat Udom Khongkha Khiri Khet (วัดอุดมคงคาคีรีเขต) Good for meditation practicing, the temple is located deep in lush forest in Tambon Ban Khok. Luangpu Phang, a Buddhist monk famous in meditation, once lived here. Today, Buddhists come to visit the temple and pay respect to his monument in the temple compound.

How to get there: visitors can go via Highway 12 (Khon Kaen-Chum Phae) for 14 kilometres then turn left to Highway 2062 (Ban Thum-Mancha Khiri Road) for another 44 kilometres and get on highway 229 (Mancha Khiri-Chaiyaphum Road) for 12 kilometres and turn right into the temple, 12 kilometres away.

Amphoe Chonnabot (Highway 2 and 229)

Sala Mai Thai (ศาลาไหมไทย) Located in Khon Kaen Vocational College, Sala Mai Thai is part of the project to celebrate the 60th birthday anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen (August 12, 1992). The silk centre was established to support Her Majesty the Queen's mission to promote silk and silk products from Isan as well as conserve the traditions. The centre feature the silk production process from dyeing to weaving, tools for silk production and rare equipment, and different ancient silk textiles various pattern. The centre also exhibits the world's most expensive Mudmi silk textile woven by the people of Chonnabot people. The silk textile has won Asian award in silk contest.

Sala Mai Thai is open daily during official hours, Monday to Friday during 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. For more information, contact the Khon Kaen Vocational College, Amphoe Chonnabot, Khon Kaen 40180 at Tel. 0 4328 6160.

How to get there: From downtown Khon Kaen, visitors can go via Highway 2 (Khon Kaen-Korat) for 44 kilometres. Turn right at Ban Phai Intersection to Highway 229 and go for another 11 kilometres. Sala Mai Thai is on the left, opposite to Kong Kaeo Lake.

Amphoe Pueai Noi (Highway 2, 23, 2301 and 2297)

Prasat Pueai Noi or Phrathat Ku Thong (ปราสาทเปือยน้อย หรือพระธาตุคู่ทอง) Though this Khmer ruin is smaller than many others found in the Northeast region, it remains in good condition. Prasat Pueai Noi was built in the 11-12th century in a mixed style between Baphuon and Angkor Wat as a shrine honouring Hindu Gods. According to cosmology, the central tower or Prang Prathan stands for Mount Sumeru which is the centre of the cosmos where the gods stay. The ruins were built in a typical Khmer style for religious purposes. The Naga was delicately carved on the gable of the main prang whose stone lintel featuring a reclining Narayana or visanu remains in good condition. Gopuras the entrance gate-with windows on both sides, are located on the east and the west. The base of the walls was carved in a lotus pattern.

How to get there: from downtown Khon Kaen, motorists can go via Highway 2 (Khon Kaen-Ban Phai) for 44 kilometres and connect to Highway 23 (Ban Phai-Borabue) for another 11 kilometres, then turn right to Amphoe Pueai Noi for another 24 kilometres.

Amphoe Nong Song Hong (Highway 2 and 207)

Wat Sa Bua Kaeo (วัดสระบัวแก้ว) The temple is located at Ban Wang Khun. The mural and sculptural works of this temple is worth a visit. Crouching guardian lion replicas are on both sides of the stairway leading up to the Ubosot, ordination hall, with sculptures of men stretching their legs in front in front. Luangpho Phui, preceptor of the temple, created all of these sculptures. Murals on four walls of this concrete ordination hall, both exterior and interior, feature the people's lifestyle, history of the Lord Buddha, heaven and hell and folklore. The pictures are separated by the so-called Sinthao line, a flash-

shape pattern which is widely found in murals from the Ayutthaya and Rattanakosin periods, not in the Isan region. By the unique brushwork, the murals mirror freedom of the artist in expressing emotion into the pictures, trees and animals, like Western impressionists. The favorites colors include yellow, indigo, red ochre, green, blue and black.

How to get there: From downtown Khon Kaen, visitors can go via Highway 2 (Mitraphap Road), heading to Amphoe Phon for 75 kilometres, then turn left to Highway 207 bound for Amphoe Nong Song Hong for another 17 kilometres. At kilometre 27-28, turn right at Ban Wang Khun and go ahead for a kilometre.

Amphoe Ban Phai (Highway 2)

Scientific Centre for Education, Khon Kaen Province (ศูนย์วิทยาศาสตร์เพื่อการศึกษาจังหวัดขอนแก่น) Located on a 51 rai plot of land, the centre is a knowledge hub in science and technology for children, youth, students, and the public. The 2-storey building has various exhibitions regarding science and environment as well as the Scientist Princess Room which features history and performances of Prof. Dr. Princess Chulabhorn and the Primeval World Room which features dinosaur and fossils.

The scientific center is open on weekdays from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Call 0 4327 4154 for more information.

FESTIVALS AND ANNUAL EVENTS

The Festival of Dok Khun Siang Khaen and Khao Niao Road (เทศกาลดอกคูณ-เสียงแคนและถนนข้าวเหนียว) The provincial festival of Khon Kaen is held annually during 8-15 April to celebrate the Songkran festival or water splashing. Around Kaen Nakhon Lake and on Si Chan Road, the people of Khon Kaen always start their celebration with donation of food to the monks, ritual bathing of a Buddha image, and blessing elders. Local performances will be held to entertain all fair goers.

Silk Festival, Phuk Sieo Tradition and Red Cross Fair (งานเทศกาลไหมไทย ประเพณีผูกเสี่ยวและงานกาชาด) The annual fair is held during 29 November to 10 December of each year right in front of the city hall. Besides growing rice, silk production is a main source of extra income among people in the Northeast, and Khon Kaen today can be called a major silk production

centre. "Phuk Siao" is a native tradition of Northeast to tighten friendship. To promote such unique traditions, the fair is held with various traditional related activities such as Phuk Siao tradition, local products contest, Isan dinner or Pha Laeng, local performances, and shops.

Phrathat Kham Kaen Fair (เทศกาลไหว้พระธาตุขามแก่น) The fair takes place at Wat Chetiyaphum where Phrathat Kham Kaen is situated on the full-moon day of the sixth lunar month. The fair is intended for the people of Khon Kaen to pay homage to the much revered Phrathat as well as for them to have something to rely on spiritually and make merit.

LOCAL PRODUCTS AND SOUVENIRS

Mudmi Silk of Chonnabot (ผ้าไหมมัดหมี่ อำเภอนบพ) Handed down from generation to generation, Mudmi is a unique technique of Isan in creating textile pattern. Silk threads are tied and dyed in particular patterns, resulting in beautiful textile patterns. Mudmi Silk is a major industry of Amphoe Chonnabot. Visitors can witness the silk process since the first step of sericulture from growing white mulberry and feeding silkworm to boiling the cocoon, spinning the silk, tying, dyeing, weaving and finally the complete textile.

How to get there: Amphoe Chonnabot is 54 kilometres from Amphoe Mueang Khon Kaen. Visitors can go via Highway 2 (Mitraphap Road) to Amphoe Ban Phai and turn right through Ban Phai-Chonnabot Road for another 10 kilometres.

Mudmi Cotton at Ban Mueang Phia, Amphoe Ban Phai (ผ้าฝ้ายมัดหมี่ บ้านเมืองเพีย อำเภอบ้านไผ่) In most households, weaving a Mudmi cotton and mudmi silk tube skirt is quite a common business here. Mudmi cotton from this village is quite famous for its good quality and beauty at reasonable prices. Visitor can visit the Mudmi process at Ban Mueang Phia, 3 kilometres from Ban Phai.

Natural-dyed hand-woven cotton (ผ้าฝ้ายทอมือย้อมสีธรรมชาติ) The cotton textile is a famous product by the Art Centre for Developing Isan Women. The centre consists of housewives from Amphoe Mueang, Nong Ruea, Phu Wiang

and Chum Phae to weave cotton textile by hand and dye with natural dye from native plants. Today, there are many villages producing hand-woven cotton textile with natural dye. They include Ban Suk Sombun in Amphoe Chum Phae. In Amphoe Phu Wiang, the villages include Ban Hua Fan, Ban Nong Yang Laen, Ban Nong Thung. In Amphoe Nong Ruea-Ban Non Thong and Ban Fang. Amphoe Mueang-Ban Lao Kwian Hak. And Ban Talat and Ban Nong Khaem in Amphoe Kan Lueng. Visitors can take a close look throughout the process. At the beginning of every month, the villagers always dye the cotton, and weave the textile from the middle of the month.

SOUVENIR SHOPS

Local handicrafts

Prae Pan (Art Centre for Developing Isan women) (กลุ่มแพพรพรรณ) 131-193 Chata Phadung Rd., Tel. 0 4333 7126, offers natural-dyed hand-woven cotton textile

Moradok Thai (มรดกไทย) 87/26-27 Ammat Rd., Tel. 0 4324 3827, offers various kinds of bamboo basketry

Mae Ying (แม่หญิง) 227/7 Klang Mueang Rd., Tel. 0 4332 1427, offers local textiles and silver ornaments

Rin Mai Thai (รินไหมไทย) 412 Na Mueang Rd., Tel. 0 4322 1042, 0 4322 0705, provides silk, cotton, local-style decorative pillows, etc.

Industrial Development Centre, Northeastern Region (ศูนย์ส่งเสริมอุตสาหกรรม ภาคตะวันออกเฉียงเหนือ) Mitraphap Rd., Tel. 0 4324 2047, Fax. 0 4323 8318, offers handicrafts from local communities such as silk, cotton textile and silver ornaments

Phra Dhamma Khan Textile Centre, Khon Kaen (ศูนย์สิ่งทอธรรมขันธ์ ขอนแก่น) 79/2-3 Ruen Rom Rd., Tel. 0 4322 1548, 0 4322 4080, Fax. 0 4332 1776, offers silk, cotton, and silver ornaments

Sueb San (สืบสาน) 227/71 Mitr Sampan Village, Thung Setthi, Pracha Samoson Rd., Tel. 0 4333 7103, Fax. 0 4324 1788, offers natural-dyed hand-woven cotton textile and products from recycled natural materials

Four-region Handicraft Centre (ศูนย์หัตถกรรม 4 ภาค) 277 Mu 3 Mitraphap Rd., Tel. 0 4322 8147 to 9, 0-1670-1984, offers local handicrafts and ceramics

Dried products

Kun Chiang Nai Bu (ขุนเชียงนายบู๊) 198-200 Ruam Chit Rd., Tel 0 4322 3009, offers Chinese-style pork sausages, dried crispy sliced pork, and dried shredded pork

Je Ruch (เจรัช) Klang Mueang Rd., Tel. 0 4323 7787, offers preserved pork, sour pork, Chinese style pork sausage, dried crispy sliced pork

Tia Hua Yoo (เตียฮัวยู) 584 Si Chan Rd., Tel. 0 4322 4472, offers different kinds of peanut dessert

Sawai Rosthip (สวารสทิพย์) 179/32 Pracha Samoson Rd., Tel. 0 4323 9733, offers sausage, preserved pork, and fermented fish sauce

Naem Lublae (แนมลับแล) 42 Klang Mueang Rd., Tel. 0 4323 6537, offers sour pork, Chinese-style sausage, preserved pork, and sun dried beef

Heng Nguan Hieng (เฮงง่วนเอียง) 54/1-2 Klang Mueang Rd., Tel. 0 4323 9458, 0 4323 6735, offers preserved pork, Chinese-style sausage and dried crispy sliced pork

Lee Kang Sieng (ลีกังเซียง) Klang Mueang Rd., Tel. 0 4332 3323, offers preserved pork and Chinese-style sausage

FACILITIES

Accommodation

(room rate published here may change, check before booking)

Amphoe Mueang

Kaen Inn (แก่นอินน์) 56 Klang Mueang Rd., (Tel. 0 4324 5420 to 31, Fax. 0 4323 6690), 160 rooms, 800-1,800 baht

Grand Hotel (แกรนด์ โฮเต็ล) 39 Soi Samakkhi Uthit, Lang Mueang Rd., (Tel. 0 4323 8057, 0 4323 6690), 58 rooms, 150-300 baht

Kaen Nakhon Hotel (แก่นนคร โฮเต็ล) 690 Si Chan Rd., (Tel 0 4322 4268 to 71), 150 rooms, 200-500 baht

Ruen Rom (รื่นรมย์) 335 Ruen Rom Rd., (Tel. 0 4322 3522 to 3, 0 4322 5446 to 7. Fax. 0 4322 0567), 72 rooms, 300 baht

Khon Kaen Hotel (ขอนแก่น โฮเต็ล) 43/2 Phimphasut Rd., (Tel. 0 4324 4881 to 5, Fax. 0 4324 2458), 140 rooms, 450-800 baht

Dima Hotel (ดิมา โฮเต็ล) 113 Chi Tha Khon Rd., (Tel. 0 4332 1562 to 5, Fax. 0 4332 1561), 120 rooms, 200-300 baht

Kosa (โคมะ) 250-252 Si Chan Rd., (Tel. 0 4322 5014 to 8. Fax. 0 4322 5013), 187 rooms, 800-1,000 baht

Charoen Thani Princess (เจริญธานี ปริณิเศส) 260 Si Chan Rd., Tambon Nai Mueang, (Tel. 0 4322 0400 to 14, Fax. 0 4322 0438), 320 rooms, 2,160 baht

Thani Bungalow (ธานี บังกะโล) 300 Ruen Rom Rd., (Tel. 0 4322 1428), 86 rooms, 250-500 baht

Chaipat (ชัยพัช) 106/3 Na Mueang Rd., (Tel. 0 4333 3055 to 64. Fax. 0 4323 6860), 128 rooms, 900-1,400 baht

Sofitel Racha Orchid Khon Kean (โซฟิเทล ราชฯ ออคิด ขอนแก่น) 9/9 Pracha Samran Rd., (Tel. 0 4332 2155, Fax. 0-4332-2150), 300 rooms, 3,000-7,000 baht

Busarakham (บุษราคัม) 68 Phimphasuk Rd., Tambon nai mueang, (Tel. 0 4333 3660, 0 4324 2222, Fax. 0 4324 1222), 157 room, 750-800 baht

Pen Nueng Hotel (เพ็นนึ่ง โฮเต็ล) 105 Chai Narong Rd., (Tel. 0 4332 2081 to 5, Fax. 0 4332 1234), 211 rooms, 350-400 baht

PP Hotel (พีพี โฮเต็ล) 98 Darun Samran Rd., (Tel. 0 4322 6500-10. Fax. 0 4332 1756), 150 rooms, 300-1,000 baht

Phu Inn (ภูอินน์) 26/34 Sathit Yutitham Rd., (Tel. 0 4324 3174 to 6), 97 rooms, 250-300 baht

Rossukhon (รสสุคนธ์) 1/11 Klang Mueang, (Tel. 0 4323 8576 to 9, Fax. 0 4323 8579), 73 rooms, 500 baht

Roma Hotel (โรม่า โฮเต็ล) 50/2 Klang Mueang Rd., (Tel. 0 4333 3222. Fax. 0 4324 2458), 197 rooms, 200-350 baht

Villa (วิลลา) 79 Klang Mueang Rd., (Tel. 0 4324 1545-6, Fax. 0 4323 7720), 64 rooms, 200 baht

Sawasdee Hotel (สวัสดิโฮเต็ล) Na Mueang Rd., (Tel. 0 4322 1600, 0 4322 2433), 70 rooms, 150-800 baht

Suksawas (สุขสวัสดิ์) 4/3 Klang Mueang Rd., (Tel. 0 4323 6472), 38 rooms, 100-160 baht

Saen Samran (แสนสำราญ) 55-59 Klang Mueang Rd., (Tel. 0 4323 9611, 0 4333 2985 to 7), 52 rooms, 150-250 baht

Amarin Plaza (อัมรินทร์พลาซ่า) 181/1 Rop Mueang Rd. (Tel. 0 4332 1660 to 1), 60 rooms, 200-350 baht

Amphoe Ban Phai

Ban Phai Hotel (บ้านไผ่ โฮเต็ล) 396 Chan Prasit Rd., (Tel. 0 4327 2119, 0 4327 3617), 100-220 baht

Phu Chaoreon (ภูเจริญ) 331-3 Ratchanikun Rd., (Tel. 0 4327 2126, 0 4327 2214), 48 rooms, 120-250 baht

Wanchai (วันชัย) 381/1-3 Sukhaphiban 2 Rd., (Tel. 0 4327 2033), 42 rooms, 280-450 baht

Amphoe Chum Phae

Queens (ควีนส์) 207 Maliwan Rd., (Tel. 0 4331 1320), 50 rooms, 350 baht

Cheewin Palace (ชีวิน พาเลซ) 333 Maliwan Rd., (Tel. 0 4331 1577 to 8), 62 rooms, 200-600 baht

Sukchai (สุโขทัย) 816/1 Maliwan Rd., (Tel. 0 4331 1221), 28 rooms, 120 baht

Suksan (สุขสันต์) 104-107 Maliwan Rd., (Tel. 0 4331 1125, 0 4331 1143), 42 rooms, 200 baht

Amphoe Ubolratana

The Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand's bungalow (บ้านพักการไฟฟ้าฝ่ายผลิต) Ubolratana Dam., (Tel. 0 4344 6231, 0 4322 4129 ext. 2864, 0 2436 3271 to 2), 5 bungalows, 1,800-2,200 baht, 90-roomed apartments, 400 baht (electric-fan room) and 800 (air-conditioned rooms)

Amphoe Khao Suan Kwang

Kamolphand Resort (กมลพันธุ์ รีสอร์ท) Kilometre 49, (Tel. 0 4332 8186, 0 1601 0433, 0 1601 6307. Fax. 0 4332 7734), 22 bungalows, 500-1,200 baht

Restaurants

Amphoe Mueang

Kai Yang Roswiset (ไก่อ่างรสวิเศษ) Mitraphap Rd. (in the compound of Vichian Borikarn gas station), Tel. 0 4322 5004

Kai Yang Pa Pong (ไก่อ่างป่าพอง) Klang Mueang Rd. (next to Rossukhon Hotel)

Krua Hue (ครัวห้วย) 1/1-2 Klang Mueang Rd., (next to Bangkok Bank, Na Mueang Branch), Tel. 0 4332 1074

Can Luang (แคนหลวง) 24/1-4 Na Mueang Rd., Tel. 0 4324 1922

Chon Ngoen (จอนเงิน) 86/1 Si Nuan Rd., near Kaen Nakhon Lake, Tel. 0 4322 4817

Ban Na Mai (บ้านน้ำไม้) 42/14 Ammat Rd., Tel. 0 4323 9958, 0 4324 6288

Pla Pa Yai&Pa Noi (ปลาป่าใหญ่&ป่าน้อย) Rop Bueng Kaen Nakhon Rd., Tambon Nai Mueang, Tel. 0 4322 5411, 0 6645 6616

Mangkorn Luang Restaurant (ภัตตาคารมังกรหลวง)
169/7 Maliwan Rd. (opposite to Sithan gate, Khon Kaen University), Tel. 0 4323 7638, 0 4323 6996, 0 4333 3781

Riem (เรียม) Rop Bueng Kaen Nakhon Rd., Tel. 0 4322 1095

Lung In (ลุงอิน) Rop Bueng Kaen Nakhon Rd., Tel. 0 4322 0669

Suan Hansa (สวนहरษา) 162/1 Mitraphap Rd., Tel. 0 4324 2236 to 7

Suan Aharn Chai Tung (สวนอาหารชายทุ่ง) Maliwan Rd., (bound for Amphoe Chum Phae) Tel. 0 1416 0246

Suan Aharn Bua Luang (สวนอาหารบัวหลวง) Rop Bueng Kaen Nakhon Rd., Tel. 0 4322 2504

Amporn Namnueng (อัมพรนันทเนื่อง) 87/14-15 Klang Mueang Rd., Tel. 0 4324 3373

Pizza and Bake II (พิซซ่า แอนด์ เบค สาขา 2) 6/5 Klang Mueang Rd., Tel. 0 4323 8883

The Parrot (เดอะเพรอต) 175 Si Chan Rd., Tel. 0 4324 4692

First Choice (เฟิร์สชอยส์) 188 Pimpasut Rd., Tel. 0 4324 1283

Ran Pla Panoi (ร้านปลาป้าน้อย) Rop Bueng Kaen Nakohn Rd., Tel. 0 4322 2504

Shing Sha Mai (ชิงช้าไม้) Na Mueang Rd., Tel. 0 4332 0711

Dok Khun Restaurant (ดอกขุนภัตตาคาร) (in Netr Night Bazaar) 6/100 Klang Mueang Rd., Tel. 0 4323 6239

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBER

City Hall	Tel. 0 4323 6507
Provincial Public Relation	Tel. 0 4333 0157
Tourist Police	Tel. 1155
Provincial Police Station	Tel. 0 4322 1162
Amphoe Administration Office	Tel. 0 4323 6115
Khon Kaen Municipality	Tel. 0 4322 1185
Khon Kaen Hospital	Tel. 0 4323 6005 to 6
Srinakarin Hospital	Tel. 0 4324 2331 to 44

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The contents of the publication are subject to change
without notice.*

Nation, Religion and Royal Family are deeply revered by Thais.

Thank You for Caring for the Environment and Thai Culture.

*Use the service of only registered travel agents.
You have legal rights under Thai law.*

ศาลากลางจังหวัด	City Hall
สำนักงาน ททท.	Tourism Authority of Thailand
โรงเรียน	School
สถานีขนส่ง	Bus Terminal
สถานีรถไฟ	Railway Station
ทางหลวง	Highway
แม่น้ำ, แล่งน้ำ	River, Stream
ทางรถไฟ	Railway

0.5 0 0.5 1 Kilometres

- 1 โรงพยาบาลเวสประสิทธิ์ Wet Prasit Hospital
- 2 โรงพยาบาลเซนต์ปอลส์ Saint Paul's Hospital
- 3 โรงพยาบาลราชพฤกษ์ Ratcha Phruek Hospital
- 4 โรงพยาบาลขอนแก่นราม Khon Kaen Ram Hospital
- 5 โรงพยาบาลโมกุล Mokun Hospital
- 6 โรงพยาบาลห่านอาสา Han Asa Hospital

1 ตลาดจระ Jira Market

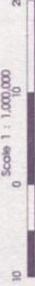
- 1 มหาวิทยาลัยขอนแก่น Khon Kaen University
- 2 สถานีตำรวจภูธรจังหวัดขอนแก่น
Khon Kaen Provincial Police Station
- 3 สำนักงานเทศบาลนครขอนแก่น
Khon Kaen Municipal Office
- 4 สถานีตำรวจภูธรอำเภอเมืองขอนแก่น
Amphoe Mueang Khon Kaen Police Station
- 5 สนามกีฬาจังหวัดขอนแก่น Khon Kaen Stadium

1 พิพิธภัณฑ์สถานแห่งชาติ The National Museum
2 ศาลหลักเมือง City Pillar Shrine

- 1 ร้านอาหารไทยอยุธยา Thai Ayutthaya Restaurant
- 2 ร้านอาหารโกลบมอดิน Kai Op Modin Restaurant
- 3 ร้านอาหารป๋ายอนเจี๊ P Uan J.C. Restaurant
- 4 ร้านอาหารจุมดู Jumdu Restaurant

Province Location
Amphoe (District)
Tourist Attraction
Airport
Railway Station
Highway
Water River
Province Boundary
Railway

Scale 1 : 1,000,000



Ku Pueai Noi





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